Steering Group #1

April 26, 2012, 6-8pm Kent Meridian High School - Library

Attendees: (transcribe from attached list)

Facilitators: Milenko Matanovic & Bree Dillon, Pomegranate Center

ACTION ITEMS

- **Josh:** bring a map to Steering Group 2 so group can identify East Hill boundaries
- Pomegranate Center: send out action plan worksheet in advance of next meeting
- **Steering Group members:** individually prepare their answers on the action plan worksheets
- Pomegranate Center: provide case studies and community contacts for similar projects
- **Pomegranate Center:** coordinate local project tour with interested steering group members

AGENDA

Welcome - Harpreet Gill

Introductions & Roles – Bree Dillon reviewed the roles of various stakeholders and then asked everyone to briefly introduce their skills and expertise.

Roles:

City of Kent: resource and project support Pomegranate Center: conveners & facilitators United Way of King County: Phase I funders Community Members: idea-generators and decision-makers Steering Group Members:

- Attend 3 Steering Group meetings between now and June
- Recommend strategic priorities
- Assist the City in securing funding for Phase 2 & 3
- Uphold code of collaboration
- Serve as an advocate for the project

Expertise in the room: it became evident during introductions that a wealth of extraordinary skills and expertise reside within the steering group:

• Social work; work with people

Communication

Public health



Pomegranate Center Milenko Matanovic, 425.557.6412, milenko@pomegranate.org

- Senior well being
- Information technology
- History
- Organization management
- Diversity and cross-cultural training
- Councilor
- Connecting people
- Teacher
- Music
- Parents

- Strategic planning
- Youth at risk
- Grants writing
- Writing
- Equity
- Social Justice
- Faith
- Homeless
- Advocacy
- Business

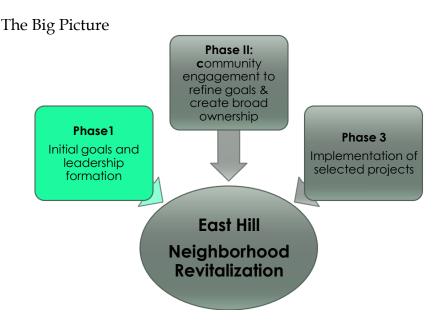
In the Pomegranate Center model of community-building the idea of multiple victories is paramount: create projects that meet many goals at once. This steering group, with their diverse skill base, can help achieve that!

Goals -Milenko Matanovic explained that the East Hill Neighborhood Revitalization Project has three phases:

Phase 1 Goal: Develop partnership and leadership to implement powerful projects in Phases 2 & 3

Meeting Goal: develop strategy groups to prioritize March 3 findings

Project Context: the big picture and March 3 findings -Milenko



Review of March 3 Findings

On March 3 a community forum was held to explore the questions "How does East Hill become the best neighborhood in the region?" 67 community members gave more than 80 ideas which can be categorize accordingly:

- Physical Improvements
- Human/social Improvements
- Common Themes
- Guiding values (aka. project criteria)

See <u>www.ci.kent.wa.us/content.aspx?id=20807</u> for a comprehensive list of ideas that were generated on March 3

Strategy Groups - Milenko invited steering members to work in three small groups under which all ideas from March 3 fall:

- Physical improvements
- Human/social improvements
- Resources needed to support these improvements

Each strategy group was asked to "identify which ideas could have the most impact, be the most efficient and take East Hill the farthest toward being the 'best neighborhood in the region?'" The below findings are the first step toward creating a set of specific actionable goals. The second and third steering group meetings will progressively get more detailed in this exercise and the group will define the what, who, when & how for each prioritized goal. The list of goals below will then be revisited and, if necessary, revised. The aim is to create a plan that is both visionary and realistic and presents a clear and compelling case for phase 2 funding and increased community ownership.

Human/social improvements

- Communication: community forum, cross-cultural and social media
- Economic Development: job creation, promotion of business and economy
- Youth Development
- Housing and Homelessness
- Form a council to get funding

Physical Improvements

- Gathering Place: plaza, hub, core community, youth
- Art: inside and outside, traveling art
- International District

- Clean, safe community
- Accountability: business, landlords, code enforcement

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Resources needed to support these improvements

- Action community groups: formal and informal, traditional and non-traditional
- Money, funders, those that have a stake in this project
- Government: local, county, state, mayors office, police, fire, planning, DOT
- Local skills & knowledge
- Places: property owners, business, schools, KCHA, vacant
- Everyone's network
- Lessons learn from other efforts (Kent, White Center, Skyway, etc...)

These recommendations will be developed into action plans at the next meeting. At the end of the next meeting we will revisit these priorities in response to the work the groups will do with action plans.

Next Steps -

- Steering Group #2: May 24 6-8pm develop action plans to support prioritized goals
- Steering Group #3: June 21 6-8pm address how to raise funds to support these goals